(d) to (f) The recommendations that are applicable to pre-service teacher education are meant for the pre-service teacher training institutions, whereas those pertaining to in-service teacher education are expected to be implemented by the State/Union Territory Governments for teachers of all schools, as part of the implementation of NCF-2005.

Foreign capital investment in power sector

†*551. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a need for foreign capital investment in the power generation sector in the country;

(b) if so, the amount of foreign capital invested in this sector during 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been a gap between such investments approved and investments actually made during those years; and

(d) if so, how much this gap was during each of those years and the rate of dividend being assessed in the country on such investments?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) In view of the unprecedented capacity addition programme of 78,577 MW during the 11th Plan, foreign capital investment is welcome in the power generation sector in the country.

According to information available with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), which maintains the data on FDI, the quantum of FDI inflows in the power sector during the past three financial years are as follows:—

Year	Amount of FDI inflows (Rs. crore)
2005-06 (April—March)	386
2006-07 (April—March)	713
2007-08 (April—Feb.)	2003

In addition to the above FDI inflows, as on 25th April, 2008, 266 Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) are holding 4.9% of the total share capital of Rs. 8245 crore of the NTPC Ltd., the only generating company under Ministry of Power, which came out with Initial Public Officer (IPO).

(c) and (d) Accourding to the existing policy, FDI is permitted in the power sector on the automatic route wherein no prior approval of the Government is required except when the foreign investor has an existing collaboration/joint venture in the same sector. FDI into any sector can be brought in tranches. Therefore, data on FDI inflows and that on FDI ar are not correlated, as is evident from the quantum of FDI approved for the powe during the past three financial years are as follows:—

Year	Amount of FDI inflows (Rs. crore)
2005-06 (April—March)	157
2006-07 (April—March)	1968
2007-08 (April—Feb.)	2835

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

According to the provisions of existing Tariff Policy of power sector, notified on 6th January, 2006, return on investment should attract investments at par with, if not in preference to, other sectors so that the electricity sector is able to create adequate capacity. The rate of return should be such that it allows generation of reasonable surplus for growth of the sector.

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission is to notify, from time to time, the rate of return on equity for generation and transmission projects, keeping in view the assessment of overall risks and the prevalent cost of capital which shall be followed by the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions also. Actual returns vary depedning upon performance on various parameters as compared to tariff norms and incentives, if any, for generation beyond threshold limits.

Presently, private investment in the power generation sector is permitted under the competitive tariff bidding route also without any assured rate of return. The returns of the private developers are dependent upon various factors such as project cost, operating cost, operating efficiencies, debt-equity ratio, cost of capital etc. In the case of FDI, besides the above, factors such as country risk, foreign exchange risk, availability of alternative investment opportunities at home and abroad etc. also influence the expected returns on such investments.

Accordingly, dividend/return on the FDI investments in the power generation sector would vary from case to case based on the above factors.

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan

*552. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to universalise the secondary education and is in the process of finalisation of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this process is going to cover only upto 10th standard;

(d) if so, the reasons why the Abhiyan is not covering upto 12th standard;

(e) how much money would be required to make education upto 12th standard universal and how much money has been allocated, so far; and

(f) whether Government has sufficient financial resources to make the Abhiyan successful?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of India has proposed to implement a centrally sponsored scheme for universalisation of access to and improvement of quality of education at secondary stage, tentatively called 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan' (RMSA), during the 11th Five Year Plan. The objective of the scheme is to make secondary eduction of good quality available, accessible and affordable to all young persons in the age group 15-16 years (classes IX and X) by providing a secondary school within a reasonable distance of every habitation.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the high drop out rate of 61.92% for classes I to X (as per the Selected Educational Statistics, 2004-05, with reference date 30.9.2004), and successful implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), it has been proposed to cover classes IX and X initially.